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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: M. TAKEDA, et al. Art Unit: 3734
Application No.: 10/684,420
Filed: October 15, 2003
For: VALVE UNIT AND FLUID CONTROL CHIP

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. All of these references were cited in an International Search Report dated January 19, 2004 (copy attached). US '872 is of record (IDS filed October 15, 2003).

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: June 22, 2004

JEL/spp

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce
(Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

L8612.03104

SERIAL NO.

10/684,420

APPLICANT

M. TAKEDA, et al.

FILING DATE

October 15, 2003

GROUP

3734

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE APPROPRIATE
	4 1 6 6 6 0 5	09/1979	Hall et al.			
	3 9 3 4 6 0 1	01/1976	Lavon			
	6 0 0 3 8 3 3	12/1999	Tasi et al.			
	5 4 4 1 5 9 7	08/1995	Bonne et al.			
	6 0 8 2 1 8 5	07/2000	Saaski			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
2 2 9 3 9 8 8	07/1976	FR				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	International Search Report dated January 19, 2004

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.